

INSPECTION REPORT

GNB Incorporated
2700 S. Indiana St.
Vernon, CA 90023
RCRA Non-Major Facility
CAD097854541

Inspected by

Gregory A. Holmes, Hazardous Materials Specialist
Chong Kim, Associate Hazardous Materials Specialist

Department of Health Services
Toxic Substances Control Division
107 S. Broadway, Rm. 7011
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Inspected May 5, 6, 7, 1987

Report date 5/19/87

I. Purpose: TSDF evaluation inspection.

II. Representatives present: Ken Clark, Technical and
Environmental Manager

Ralph Woods, Human Resources
and Administrative Manager

III. Facility Description and Background

GNB Incorporated is a secondary lead smelter which uses spent automobile and truck batteries as its primary raw material. The facility covers approximately 24 acres, and is located on the northwest corner of Bandini Boulevard and Indiana Street in Vernon. A plot plan is included as Attachment 1.

The facility is operating under interim status as a treatment, storage, and/or disposal facility (TSDF). A Part A application was originally filed on August 8, 1980 by Gould Incorporated, the former owners of the facility, and they received interim status on December 12, 1981. On April 4, 1984, their interim status was rescinded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at Gould's request, due to EPA's determination at that time that Gould was not a treatment facility as defined by the Resource Recovery and Conservation Act (RCRA).

The facility was later sold to a group of Gould executives, and became GNB Incorporated. Due to a re-definition of solid waste by EPA in January, 1985, the facility once again became a TSDF. In July, 1985, they submitted a new Part A. According to

the Toxic Substances Control Division (TSCD) Permitting Unit, the facility now has interim status, however a new Interim Status Document could not be found in the file.

This was the first TSDF inspection conducted at the facility.

IV. Waste Stream and Waste Management Procedures

The facility is both a hazardous waste treatment facility and a generator of hazardous waste. It is not permitted to store hazardous waste over 90 days, or to serve as a disposal site.

Present industrial processes include crushing of lead-acid storage batteries, separation of materials, and smelting of lead. Treatment of hazardous waste takes place in a proprietary Raw Materials Preparation System (RMPS), and in acid neutralization tanks. Attachment 2 shows a flow diagram of the RMPS.

The first step involving treatment of hazardous waste is the crushing operation, in which spent batteries (a hazardous waste in California, by definition) are crushed in a hammermill. Battery components, including pieces of cases, posts, grids, etc., are separated in a water column. Sulfuric acid drains into a sump, where a soda ash solution is added in the first of several neutralization processes.

The following chart shows types, origins, and destinations of waste streams:

Waste Stream -----	Origin -----	Ann. Vol. 1986 -----	Treatment or Disposal -----
1. Battery cases and separators (BCS)	RMPS	3445.9 tons	landfill- Kettleman
2. Wastewater with sulfuric acid	RMPS, other sources	71,800,000 gallons	neutrali- zation, discharge to POTW
3. Blast furnace slag	blast furnace	6766.97 tons	landfill- Kettleman
4. Flue dust (EPA waste # K069)	furnaces	not measured	recycle to system
5. Flue gas	reverb., blast furnaces	not measured	scrubber
6. Waste oil	fork lifts, machinery	---	recycled- Salvage Oil Service